

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)  
WITHOUT FILING A STATEMENT AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 900-411

Date: January 10, 2002

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

**THIN-FILM SOLAR CELL AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract  
53 pages of specification and claims (including 22 numbered claims), and  
5 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.  
☐ Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.  
☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.  
☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
2001-4575	Japan	12/01/2001
2001-30028	Japan	06/02/2001
2001-394695	Japan	26/12/2001
2001-394713	Japan	26/12/2001

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

Certified copy(ies) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ in prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

The prior application is assigned to \_\_\_\_\_

It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

1. Inventor: Hiroshi YAMAMOTO Japanese  
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)  
Residence: (city) Nara (state/country) Japan  
Mailing Address: 192-1-429, Hajikami, Sinjou-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun, Nara, Japan  
(Zip Code) 639-2122
2. Inventor: Kenji WADA Japanese  
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)  
Residence: (city) Hyogo (state/country) Japan  
Mailing Address: 21-2-101, Yamamoto Maruhashi 2-chome, Takarazuka-shi, Hyogo, Japan  
(Zip Code) 665-0815

☐ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

Address all future communications to NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Arlington, VA 22201.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: H. Warren Burnam, Jr., Reg. No. 29,366

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_